

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4348

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

USINT HAVANA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARAMARIBO 735

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PROP NS CU

SUBJ: THE ROCKY ROAD TO CUBA

REF: PARAMARIBO 630(NOTAL)

1. COMPETING GROUPS CONTINUE TO SPAR OVER THE ORGANIZATION OF SURINAM'S DELEGATION TO THE WORLD FESTIVAL OF YOUTH AND STUDENTS TO BE HELD IN CUBA BEGINNING JULY 28. TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE, KLAUS LUDWIG OF WEST GERMANY AND LEONEL VILLALOBOS SALAZAR FROM COSTA RICA, VISITED SURINAM WEEK OF MAY 15 AND PARTICIPATED IN A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD BY THE BROADER-BASED FACTION HEADED BY NATIONALISTIC REPUBLIC PARTY (PNR) MEMBER ORLANDO BRUYNE AND INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF YOUTH GROUPS AFFILIATED WITH A NUMBER OF SURINAM'S MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES. MEANWHILE, A RIVAL FACTION REPRESENTING THE SURINAM NATIONAL YOUTH MOVEMENT ATTACHED TO DR. RUBIN LIE PAUW SAM'S PEOPLE'S PARTY CONTINUES TO PRESENT ITSELF AS SPOKESMAN FOR THE SURINAM NATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE FESTIVAL.

2. AT THE MAY 18 PRESS CONFERENCE HELD BY THE BRUYNE-LED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 PARAMA 00735 222213Z

GROUP, LUDWIG DECLARED THAT ALL THOSE SINCERELY INTERESTED ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE FESTIVAL BUT OBSERVED THAT THE FESTIVAL'S THEME OF SOLIDARITY RULED OUT TWO DELEGATIONS FROM A SINGLE COUNTRY BEING ACCEPTED. LUDWIG ALSO SHED SOME LIGHT ON CHARGES HEARD EARLIER THAT THE NATIONAL YOUTH MOVEMENT GROUP HAD MONOPOLIZED COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE BY SAYING THAT THE

PEOPLE'S PARTY ADDRESS HAD BEEN USED SINCE THE TIME THAT
THE SURINAM NATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE HAD BEEN SET UP IN
JANUARY 1977.

3. COMMENT: WHERE THIS LEAVES THE QUESTION OF A SURINAM
DELEGATION, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO NUMBER ABOUT 30 PEOPLE AND
COST APPROXIMATELY SF. 15,000 (\$8500), IS NOT CLEAR. THE
REPUTEDLY COMMUNIST DOMINATED NATIONAL YOUTH MOVEMENT
(AFFILIATED WITH THE WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH)
AND THE BRUYNE-LED GROUP (INCLUDING PNR LEADER ROBIN RAVELES)
WHICH HAS TIES WITH CUBA THROUGH THE SURINA-CUBA FRIENDSHIP
SOCIETY BOTH CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT THEY SHOULD BE IN CHARGE AND
IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER PROLETARIAN SOLIDARITY WILL TRIUMPH
TO PRODUCE A UNIFIED DELEGATION IN THE END.

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Message Attributes

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